

**PUBLIC TECHNOLOGY, INC.**



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# NEWS

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## **PTI Releases Final Results of Nationwide Survey on Local Government GIS**

Washington, DC – Public Technology, Inc. (PTI) today released the report “National GIS Survey Results: 2003 Survey on the Use of GIS Technology in Local Governments” examining the policy, management and technical aspects of local governments collecting and using geospatial data. More than 1100 city and county governments completed the nationwide survey that was conducted in the summer of 2003. Key findings include:

- 97% of responding local governments with populations of over 100,000 use GIS technology.
- 56% with populations of less than 50,000 use GIS technology.
- 86% have achieved benefits from their use of GIS technology that justify the associated cost for software, hardware, and labor.

The survey, created by PTI, the National League of Cities (NLC), the National Association of Counties (NACo), and the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) in partnership with the U.S. Department of Interior, was conducted as part of the Geospatial One Stop program. This is a federal initiative designed to enhance government efficiency, improve citizen services and make it easier, faster and less expensive for government and the public to access geospatial information.

“National GIS Survey Results: 2003 Survey on the Use of GIS Technology in Local Governments” highlights many of the barriers to the effective use of GIS, the cost vs. benefit analysis of GIS, GIS applications implemented at the local level and policy issues for sharing GIS data.

The survey report also examines how GIS technology can be used in local Homeland Security efforts. The report found that GIS applications and solutions clearly resonate with emergency management and public safety executives as an essential tool to provide the most effective support of their efforts.

“After the courage and efforts of our first responders, GIS technology was the most demanded resource by local, state, and federal responders during the 9-11 response and recovery activities at the NYC world trade center” said Alan Leidner, Director of Enterprise GIS for the City of New York NY and chair of the committee of local government officials that helped to draft the survey instrument.

Included in the survey report is a “Call to Action” that promotes leadership and is designed to help local, state and federal officials eliminate some of the barriers to the effective use of GIS within their organizations.

The Geospatial One Stop Board of Directors, which includes state, local, tribal and federal representatives, asked that this national survey be developed to provide the board with an understanding of the geospatial data that local governments currently collect and would be willing to share with other governments. The local representatives on the Board are: Brian O’Neill, Councilmember from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Chairman of the Public Technology, Inc. Board of Directors and former President of the National League of Cities; Randy Johnson, Commissioner from Hennepin County, Minnesota and former President of the National Association of Counties; and Eric Anderson, City Manager of Des Moines, Iowa and member of ICMA.

“National GIS Survey Results: 2003 Survey on the Use of GIS Technology in Local Governments” can be downloaded from the PTI web site at [www.pti.org](http://www.pti.org). In addition, PTI has made available via its web site an interactive tool that allows local governments to retrieve detailed results of the survey and compare how their jurisdictions are using GIS with other local governments.

### **About PTI**

Public Technology, Inc. (PTI) is a non-profit technology research and development membership organization based in Washington, DC. Cities and counties across the country are members of PTI. Founded more than 30 years ago, to advance the use and development of technology, PTI’s mission is to bring the benefits of technology to local and state government. Through task forces, focus groups and pilot demonstration sites, PTI’s members and industry partners work together to keep pace with advances in today’s technology and forge innovative solutions to tomorrow’s challenges.